

News-Social Letter ACTION

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Disciples World Council Workers in Europe

Tour Disciple young people are now in Europe working under the direction of the World Council of Churches for a period of from one to two years on a assistance basis. They will be under general supervision of Robert Tobias, Disciples of Christ representative in Geneva and Associate Director of the World Council's Department of Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service.

Stokely B. (Jimmy) Gribble sailed the S. S. *Georgic* on May 31, and arrived in Geneva on June 10. He accompanied Robert Tobias to Greece on June 14, and will spend two years with the Christian Village Service Mission under World Council direction. This is a cooperative project in rehabilitation of villages and farm lands in northwestern Greece on the Albanian frontier where the country was fought over World War II and ravaged in the communist revolution following. This is a joint enterprise of the Church of Brethren, Mennonites, Congregational Christians, Anglicans and Disciples of Christ. Gribble, a former Air Force Staff Sergeant with 18 missions over Germany, will receive transportation, food and lodging, and a small monthly allowance for personal needs, life insurance and a clothing allowance.

Thomas Emmett (Ted) Jones, student in University of Chicago Divinity School and secretary of the Ecclesia of the Disciples Student Federation, sailed on the S. S. *Homeland* on June 1, for Hamburg, Germany, where after a few weeks experience in training camps and work camps he will join Pastor Heinz Kloppenburg, World Council chaplain at Oldenburg, for a year of work among refugee and German church youth. Ted is no stranger to Germany, having spent the summer of 1949 in a World Council work camp in the Ruhr valley.

Thomas and Susan Hanna, Texas Christian and University of Chicago students, are scheduled to sail on the Holland-America liner *Ryndam* on August 1, for Havre, France, from whence they will proceed to Paris for two years service with CIMADE (Comite Inter-Mouvements Aupres des evacués), an interdenominational youth organization established in 1939 to aid evacuees and other refugees, and later to bring the witness of Christian love to prisoners of war.

Honesty In Praying

The Good Samaritan was a man who acted. I have no doubt that he was a man of prayer, but the scene on the Jericho road called for *action*, and action of a courageous and generous kind, and he did not fail to act. Prayer in the Bible is set forth as a most *ethical* thing and not as a means of dodging responsibility. What is the good of a man praying for peace and then doing all he can to foster war? What is the use of a man praying for better conditions of justice and then doing all he can to put in the wrong government? Things will go better when there is more honesty in Christian prayer, when our praying costs us more in sacrificial service.

(William Robinson, *News and Views*, of the Christian Action Fellowship of the Churches of Christ in Britain.)

Labor Sunday Message

The annual Labor Sunday Message of the Department of Church and Economic Life of the National Council of Churches for this year deals with the achievements of labor in the struggle for justice, the responsibility of labor for creating brotherhood and for the fulfillment of a common dream of labor, management, and the public for a Christian world. The Message is designed to be read in the churches on Sunday, September 2, or Sunday, September 9.

Copies of the Message have been mailed to all pastors by the Department of Social Welfare. Additional supplies for congregational use can be secured from The National Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y., at \$1.85 per hundred, cash with the order. *Do not order from Indianapolis.*

Tom and Susan will spend the month of August in Paris and will attend a training camp before being assigned to one of the Cimade installations for duty.

The inauguration of this program was made possible by designating a portion of the Week of Compassion offering for Church World Service in 1950 for the training of Disciples young people in Europe. It is hoped that this may become a continuing feature of our brotherhood life.

J. A. C.

After the Armistice What?

It may be premature to raise the issue of what policy should be followed in Korea when, and if, a cease-fire is arranged. At the moment of writing most discussion is directed to the cease-fire itself, provoked by the suggestion of Yosef Malik of the Soviet Union, on June 23 that the "belligerents" consent to a cease-fire. Certainly Malik does not consider Russia as one of the belligerents; it is doubtful whether he so considers Communist China.

Current reports indicate that most, if not all, of the foreign offices of members of the United Nations, take Malik's proposal as indicating that the Communists are willing to concede their previous demands, which the UN command has categorically declined to consider; namely, that Red China be given a seat in the UN and that Formosa be turned over to Peking. The most skeptical of all, perhaps, is the USA Department of State.

The only state official known to this writer to have firmly rejected the suggestion is, strangely enough, Singman Rhee, president of the Republic of Korea. This may be due to his unhappy experience with Communists and his consequent inability to accept anything coming from this source as being in good faith. But it may also be due to Rhee's anticipation that peace in Korea may mean the end of his regime if that peace comes as the result of anything less than complete military subjugation of North Korea. It is quite reasonable, in view of past and quite recent events, that Rhee would expect his regime to be continued in power under the protection of the military government that would necessarily follow.

Rhee has made it quite clear, however, that he would not accept UN control over Korea. Although he reluctantly acquiesced in the UN resolution of October 12, limiting his regime to South Korea, he followed this with a statement on November 23, saying, "Considering the contributions the United Nations has made toward establishing the Republic of Korea and in the war, we have so far avoided a head-on collision with the United Nations . . . But we will never accept United Nations interference on the question of Korean sovereignty."

There are many signs that the Rhee regime would have tough going if the Korean people, even in the South alone, were given free voice to elect a government in peacetime. In fact, in the

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UMT Not Licked

It is not often that the editors of *Social Action News-Letter* take issue with our Washington colleague, Robert A. Fangmeier, for whose years of experience as an observer on Capitol Hill and whose continuing close touch with events as they transpire in the nation's capitol, we have great respect. However, we cannot share his apparent optimism over the supposed defeat of the Administration's plans to enact UMT. In the first place, we have a draft law that makes every young man liable for 24 months of military service at age 18½. Not only has the age limit been lowered, but the passing grade has been dropped from 80 to 75. College students are being screened to defer the intellectual elite, who will be under pressure to take ROTC and thus qualify for officers—and who will blame them for accepting under the circumstances? All deferments, including IV-Fs, are to be rescreened, as are also some 4,500 presently deferred C|Os. The C.O. provisions of the new law are the worst in the history of dealing with this problem by Congress. Caught in a conflict between the Senate that wanted no exemptions for C.Os. and the House that wanted to continue deferment, the conference committee finally threw the whole business back into the lap of local draft boards, thus relieving both Congress and the Administration of an admittedly difficult problem. Under the law local boards must order C.Os. to "perform such civilian work contributing to the national health, safety or interest as the local board may deem appropriate." For this sort of thing the average local board has about as much training and experience as it would have to draft a federal tax bill or write a tariff law!

Nor can we be optimistic about the defeat of the Universal Military Training feature of the bill. What the committee finally agreed upon was a commission to prepare plans which are to be submitted to Congress within six months. The President, as was expected, has appointed a commission of persons who favor UMT and their report will be in the hands of congress by the first days of the second session, beginning in January, 1952. It will

Washington Round-Up

Legislative Mill. The conscription bill is the only major piece of legislation passed in the first six months of the 82nd Congress. The national disunity expressed in the MacArthur-foreign policy investigation, the probe of favoritism in the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the investigation of gambling by Senator Kefauver's committee have been the main business of the lawmakers. These headline investigations have overshadowed not only the business of law-making but also the perennial hunt for Communists by the House Un-American Activities Committee. In theory Congressional investigations are expected to provide information upon which laws may be formulated. Of the investigations this year the Kefauver and RFC probes have, or are expected to produce some minor legislative changes. Few people in Washington believe the MacArthur hearings are anything but a political testing of strength for the 1952 Presidential election.

Future Legislation. With Congress in an investigating mood major appropriation bills and the extension of the price and wage control legislation (Defense Production Act) have lagged behind schedule. The disunity over price and wage controls developed by powerful lobby groups will prevent the enactment of the Administration's bill to extend and strengthen controls before the July 1, deadline. Instead, Congress will extend the present legislation on a temporary basis and continue its fight over future price, wage and rent controls, as well as over the basic mobilization laws, which are included in the legislation. There seems to be little hope for economic aid legislation such as Point IV separate from military aid. They will be all lumped together, with the recipients always reminded that where economic aid is forthcoming military considerations cannot be far behind.

Civil Rights. It is the custom of Congress to consider social and humanitarian legislation just before elections. That means that FEPC, poll tax and anti-lynching legislation will probably be considered in the second session of the 82nd Congress which begins in January, 1952—a Presidential year. It now appears unlikely that any real effort will be made to pass these bills. The Administration desperately needs the Southern votes to pass its defense and foreign policy measures and is not likely to risk defeat of these by a fight over civil rights. The bills will be considered, speeches will be

come with the blessings of Congress' own commission and with the support of the Administration and the military. The outlook for its defeat is not bright. L. A. S.

J. A. C.

made, but mostly for the record. More likely is a future executive order setting up a Fair Employment Practices Committee similar to the one which operated during World War II.

School Aid. Rep. Graham Barden (D. S.C.) has introduced legislation (HR 4468) to provide \$300 million annually in federal aid to schools. The bill specifically limits aid to "public elementary and secondary schools." Auxiliary services, such as bus transportation, are excluded. The funds must be spent for teacher salaries, new buildings and certain administrative expenses. This bill is similar to the Barden Bill in the 81st Congress which caused a rift between Catholics and Protestants in and out of Congress. Rep. Barden is chairman of the House Labor and Education committee which will consider the bill.

Conscription. A draft law extending Selective Service to July 1, 1955, has finally been passed without Universal Military Training. Anti-conscription groups consider this new law a victory and the Administration, which sought a permanent and universal draft, willingly admits defeat. Scripps-Howard columnist Peter Edson, after surveying Congressional opinion concluded that the religious organizations had again stopped permanent UMT. The original Administration bill would have provided for a program of permanent universal military training and service. It was the efforts of religious groups, almost alone, that are responsible for the July 1, 1955, terminal date in the new law. Likewise, it was pressure from religious organizations which turned the tide after the Senate had included the Administration version of permanent UMT in its bill. Two ordained ministers, now members of the House, led the floor fight that knocked the UMT provision out of the House Bill. They were Rep. Dewey Short (R. Mo.) and Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D. N. Y.). The UMT fight is not over, however, since the new law sets up a commission to prepare a UMT formula for submission to Congress within six months. The new formula will require separate hearings and legislation before it can become a law. (See "UMT Not Licked," page 2, column 1, this issue. Ed.)

Threaten Boycott of Community Chest. When the Washington Community Chest voted to admit the Planned Parenthood League to membership over Catholic opposition, Catholic groups threatened to withdraw support from the Chest. The League will not receive Chest funds but will participate in agency planning activities. At this writing it is not known whether Washington Catholics will carry out their threat.

"Clear and Present Danger?" The Supreme Court in a 6 to 2 decision has held that the Communist Party in (Continued on Page 4, Col 2)

On Social Frontier

Church and Labor Leader Out. The National Religion and Labor Foundation has announced over the signatures of its two co-chairmen, John G. Ram and Francis W. McPeek, a shake-up within the organization resulting in the resignation of Dr. Willard Uphaus who has for a number of years been executive secretary. The action is based upon Dr. Uphaus' affiliation with the allegedly Communist-controlled World Peace Congress and his tilt to the Warsaw conference of that organization and to the Soviet Union without consent of the board. The report says that the Foundation does question the sincerity of Dr. Uphaus' motives, but does question his judgment in this matter. Dr. Uphaus' ends express implicit confidence in his loyalty, his patriotism and his Christian character. They say that he feels that the West has become so divided by fear and prejudice that daring action is required to break the tensions. The National Religion and Labor Foundation will continue with Acting Secretary Witherspoon Dodge in charge of the office.

* * *

CROP Wheat to India. The Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP), with headquarters at 308 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill., has launched a "Friendship Grain for India" appeal to provide at least one meal a day for nine sufferers in that land. The first token gift of 40,000 bushels of wheat was accepted by Madam Vijaya Kshmi Pandit, sister of Prime Minister Nehru and Indian Ambassador to the United States. She also represents India in the United Nations. Governors of every state in the Union are being asked to set up committees to direct the collection of grain contributions.

* * *

Freedom and Democracy Sunday Recommended. The observance of the Sunday nearest July 4, as Freedom and Democracy Sunday, initiated by the Department of Social Welfare, has attracted wide attention, including that of the American Heritage Foundation, sponsor of the Freedom Train, and the National Conference on Citizenship, sponsored jointly by the National Education Association and the Office of the Attorney General of the U. S. In a recent letter to Mrs. Ruth Estes Milner, Mrs. Lucille Ellison, secretary of the Citizenship Committee, says, "I want to thank you for your letter of June 4, and for the enclosures. I have read the material which you have prepared for Freedom and Democracy Sunday, and I want to commend it. I am delighted that you have quoted so liberally from our citizenship reports. I am sure the Citizenship Committee will be interested that you have done so"

It Is Being Done

Back in 1947 a group of women, representing the Atlantic (Ga.) Council of Church Women, began a weekly afternoon program at the women's division of the city prison. Also, the B'nai B'rith women joined heartily in the project. The program included a song service, a devotional, a talk by a carefully selected person and an hour's recreation. The response was tremendously favorable. The women prisoners seemed, from the very first, appreciative of the attention shown them by this faithful group.

Many concrete examples of direct help and influence to these needy ones could be cited. However, one story is indicative of what is being done. One fine "rehabilitate" arose one afternoon (she returned voluntarily after a year of going straight, to bear testimony) and said to the girls and women present: "Just a year ago I was right here serving time for drunkenness. It was just one of many terms I served." Then she went on to tell of a fall and how she sustained a broken leg, saying, "I hadn't a friend on earth—just a slip of paper in my purse with the names of two of these fine church women on it. I told somebody to call one of them. It was Sunday afternoon but she came—that was the day I decided to turn to God and change my ways." She did change and is employed as a governess in an Atlanta home.

Service now has been extended to Sunday afternoons where several women give time at the city jail, often being able, by talking to "Saturday night pick-ups"—particularly first offenders—to be of help. Certainly they are wielding a magnificent influence in Atlanta, a fact that is recognized by law enforcement officials throughout this section.

It IS being done!

R. E. M.

For Your Summer Reading

The Christian in Politics, by Jerry Voorhis. \$1.75. Former Congressman Jerry Voorhis has written a book that should be read and studied by all American Christians in these days when so much attention is being given to the loss of moral integrity in government. Out of his 10 years experience in Congress Mr. Voorhis, who is now general secretary of the Cooperative League of the U.S.A. lays down the thesis that "the price of good government is political activity by good people" and "the price of Christian government is political activity by Christian people." With the coming of the Presidential election in 1952 this book should be required reading for all church members.

Steps to Peace, American Friends Service Committee. 25c. The Quakers, who never give up in their struggle for peace, propose a Christian foreign policy.

J. A. C.

A Congressional Investigation That Is Paying Out

(Ask your Senator or Congressman to send you the Interim Reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Organized Crime in Interstate Commerce, S. Res. 202, 81st Congress.)

Perhaps never before in the history of the United States has the spotlight of publicity been turned on organized crime so pitilessly as has been done by the Kefauver Committee and is being continued under its new chairman, Senator O'Conor (D. Md.). Not even the MacArthur Investigation, with all its heat headlines, could erase the effect of the procession of hoodlums before the television cameras. Already crime commissions have been set up in a dozen or more states and legislation is in preparation in Congress to put more heat on gambling and crime syndicates than they have ever known before.

The work of the Kefauver Committee ought to be studied by every minister and church leader in the nation who wants to know the extent and power of the organized gambling, vice, narcotic and murder trade in the United States. The stories of the grip that criminals have on cities like New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Gary, St. Louis, Kansas City, New Orleans, Miami, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, as well as the connections they have and have had with influential politicians ranging all the way from policemen on their beats to sheriffs, mayors and governors is a sordid story that ought to arouse a sense of Christian citizenship responsibility. *Social Action News-Letter* proposes in subsequent issues to tell as much of this story as our limited space will permit, but those who are genuinely interested should heed the note at the head of this column and procure the reports referred to. The complete reports to date total 16 volumes, ranging in size all the way from pamphlets of 35-40 pages to books of 1800 pages, more than any person except researchers will care to read. But the Interim Reports will give the substance of the testimony, name names and put the bee on some mighty big politicians.

The 22 recommendations for action by Congress and the 7 directed to state and local governments are of utmost importance.

Recommendations for federal action include the establishment of a racket squad in the Department of Justice, setting up a Federal Crime Commission, a special fraud squad in the Bureau of Internal Revenue to run down income tax evasions by criminals, enforcement of regulations requiring keeping of adequate records by gamblers, gangsters and racketeers, requiring gambling casinos to keep daily records of all monies won and lost, eliminating gambling losses as deductible on income tax, outlawing transmission

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After the Armistice What?

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elections of May 30, 1950, just four weeks before the invasion, Dr. Rhee's supporters returned to the Assembly less than 50 of the 210 legislators. (See *Social Action News-Letter*, July-August, 1950.) Had it not been for the outbreak of war, a crisis would probably have followed in due course.

Popular dissatisfaction with the ultra-rightist position of the President continues to express itself even in the midst of war. In fact, one cannot avoid the impression that in Korea two wars are going on, not unrelated to each other. The one is the struggle against overt Communist aggression. The other is a popular resistance to the government in power. "Recent cataclysmic explosions in the South Korean government," writes Yongjeung Kim, president of the Korean Affairs Institute, in *The Voice of Korea*, May 31, "have virtually dwarfed the gunfire at the 38th parallel."

Three Cabinet ministers have been fired. The vice-president has resigned, and a move to impeach Dr. Rhee has been squelched. And more recently, the Supreme Commander of Army, Navy and Air Force, Chung Il Kwon, has quit, for "no official reason." There have been many charges of corruption and bribery in highest places. And a big factor in these changes is the leaking of information concerning the Kochang massacre, in which South Korean soldiers shot without trial between 200 and 300 citizens of the little town of Shin-Un Mium for being "communist sympathizers."

On May 11, Vice-President Lee Si Yung submitted his resignation following an attack on Dr. Rhee, in which he charged that Rhee had surrounded himself with incompetent and corrupt appointees and that his domestic and foreign policy were intolerable. The following day the Assembly rejected Lee's resignation with only one vote to the contrary. Then the Assembly applauded the statement that "It is now time to take the impeachment measure." Two days later, however, the Assembly reversed itself and accepted the resignation of the vice-president.

Two divergent interpretations of this reversal were made in the American press. The *New York Times* reported that U. S. officials "felt that this reversal by the legislators indicated neither a growing nor a shrinking of anti-Rhee feeling but merely a concession to an old man desirous of retiring from public life." But the *New York Herald Tribune*, reporting the alleged mind of Koreans said, "Korean government employees charged that the sudden about-face was directly attributable to 'suggestions' of the United States State Department."

On June 22, Yongjeung Kim of the

Korean Affairs Institute, addressing an appeal to Pope Pius XII, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Visser 't Hooft, Secretary General of the World Council of Churches, Dr. S. M. Cavert, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in the USA, and the titular heads of the Greek and Russian Orthodox churches, praying these religious leaders to renew efforts for a Korean peace, suggested as one of ten conditions of a cease-fire, the "dissolution of the two existing governments, since neither enjoys popular confidence, to provide the people with an unfettered opportunity to determine their own future."

"Every vestige of these regimes must be eliminated," Mr. Kim went on to say, "if the Korean problem is to be solved on the morally correct principle that sovereignty resides with the people. Any effort to save or merge the existing regimes would constitute not only a gross injustice to the Korean people, who have sacrificed so much, but an invitation for power politics to reassert itself."

Other policies proposed by Kim to follow any cease-fire include "creation of a Peace Committee," including Asian and Near Eastern representatives, which would supervise immediately the election of local governments to assume police and civil functions, these elections to be followed by a national election as soon as possible. In addition to United Nations supervision, he calls for an advisory committee of Koreans "of good reputation, who at no time served under either of the present regimes and are not considered collaborators in the Japanese rule."

The cost of the war to Koreans has been to date, according to Mr. Kim, the destruction of more than 70 percent of all homes and factories of the entire nation, more than 3,000,000 dead, and blighted lives in varying degrees of all the rest of 30,000,000 of its people.

W. W. S.

Washington Round-Up

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America is a "clear and present danger" to the government of the United States. Long a bulwark of freedom, the "clear and present danger" doctrine first enunciated by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes in 1918 has now been used to send the top eleven Communist leaders in the U. S. to prison. Justice Douglass in a dissenting opinion calling American Communists "miserable merchants of unwanted ideas; their wares unsold," declared, "How it can be said that there is a clear and present danger that this advocacy will succeed is heretofore a mystery." Also refusing to believe that the Communists could overthrow the government was Justice Hugo Black, who said, "there is hope . . . that in calmer times, when the present pressures, passions and fears subside, this or some later Court

will restore the First Amendment liberties to the high preferred place where they belong in a free society." Meanwhile the Department of Justice has rounded up seven of the eleven second-string Communist leaders and is studying possible court action against some 12,000 Communists on whom the FBI has gathered information.

Military Budget. A military budget of \$60,679,414,690 has been requested for the fiscal year 1952. Administration officials have told Congress that this is but the beginning. Another \$8.5 billion has been asked for foreign military and economic aid, of which \$6.25 billion is straight military aid for Greece, Turkey, and the Middle and Far East; \$1.65 billion for military aid to ECA countries and \$690 million for economic aid, including United Nations contributions and Point IV Program. All military and economic funds are now being distributed through ECA, the former Marshall Plan organization. According to the Washington Newsletter of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the U. S. in the first 135 years of its history expended a total of \$66 billion, of which \$56 was for military purposes. The Federal budget before World War II averaged \$6 to \$8 billion for civilian and military expenditures.

R. A. F.

Congressional Investigation

(Cont'd. from Pg. 3, Col. 3) of gambling information across state lines, forbidding transmission of bets and wagers and the payments of winnings or losses by mail, telegraph or telephone, deportation of aliens engaged in criminal activities, federal protection to local option states, and legislation to prevent racketeering in the liquor industry. For state and local enforcement the committee recommends that each state survey its law enforcement agencies with a view to greater cooperation between agencies and centralization of responsibility, state racket squads with sufficient power to act, cancellation of business license where gambling is conducted, and the setting up of citizen crime committees in every large community.

With this investigation turning the spotlight upon political personages like Governor Fuller Warren of Florida, Sheriff 'Jimmy' Sullivan of Dade County, Governor Forrest Smith of Missouri, Police Captain Dan ("the world's richest cop") Gilbert of Chicago and former Sheriff Walsh of Cook County, Sheriff H. L. Culbreath of Tampa, former Mayor O'Dwyer of New York (now Ambassador to Mexico), as well as a hundred others, and on business organizations like the Ford Motor Company, the Briggs Manufacturing Company, Detroit Stove Works, Schenley Distilleries, it is time for American citizens to wake up and assert themselves.

J. A. C.